

AGRICULTURAL.

Fire-Fanged Manure.

Comparative Value of Different Manures.
Fire-fanged manure is stable or other manure that has been thrown into a heap and permitted to heat until it has turned white and very light. In this condition it is of but very little value, the heat having expelled the ammonia, which is the principal substance of value held by the manure. When a pile of manure is seen smoking, and upon a near approach our collectors are greeted with the fumes proceeding therefrom, we may rest assured that the life thereof is fast passing away.

The best method to prevent fire fanging is to haul direct from the stable to the locality where wanted and spread or placed in pits they should be broken up before they have had time to heat and the manure deposited in the hills where needed. If preferable the manure may be composted and a sufficiency of loam mixed therewith to prevent heating. Thus arranged, the manure will go through what is known as the fermenting stage and all the valuable properties thereof will be retained.

In my early days I conceived the idea that heating was fermenting, and accordingly threw my manure into large piles in order that it might heat. About this time I came across an article in an agricultural paper that stated that manure thus treated was virtually ruined. To test the matter I removed the dirt from the sweet potato vines of a row and placed by measure about a quart of the fire-fanged manure around each plant, and covered it with dirt. I treated another row in the same way with stable manure that had never heated; another row with hen-pen manure; another with scrapings from under a house that had been many years accumulating another with ash, and so on. I had in all some twelve rows, each one manured differently, but the same measure being employed for all. I quote from memory and give the results, approximately, of only some three or four rows.

At digging time the potatoes were dropped in their respective rows and after the vines were weighed I commenced with a row that had received no manure. There was a slight quantity more than the steel yards would draw, but not enough for a second weighing. I then weighed the fire-fanged row. There was likewise a little more than a draw, but I thought of the two remnants the unmanured row was a little larger. Next the row with unheated stable manure. The yield was more than double that of the fire-fanged. Hen-pen manure increased the yield about two and a half fold, but scrapings from under a house beat them all. This row produced more than three times as much as the fire-fanged row.

So my experiment decided two points: That fire-fanging does really ruin stable manure and that scrapings from under a house, being largely composed of fowl manure and saltpetre, is the most valuable manure produced on the farm.

BRYAN TISON.

Washington, D. C.

A Mistaken Policy.

The farmers of the South appear to be in danger of repeating their great error of 1881 in raising a crop of cotton too large to be profitably marketed. The effects of that error were extremely disastrous to the people of the Southern States and brought thousands of farmers to the brink of bankruptcy.

Last year, influenced by repeated urgings of the press and the State Commissioners of Agriculture as well as by the conclusions reached by intelligent planters and merchants in public meetings, the farmers reduced the acreage of cotton and planted more corn, wheat, oats and other food products. The result of this diversifying the crops was that better prices for cotton prevailed and the financial condition of the farmers was materially improved.

The agricultural journals of the South report that the amount of fertilizing materials bought for use on cotton lands is abnormally large. From nearly every section of the cotton belt comes the statement that the acreage in cotton will be larger than ever before.

The farmers cannot suffer alone. If they will not profit by experience, they will again bring about the unfavorable conditions of two years ago for all the Southern people.—Aural World.

The Small Farmer.

The Norfolk Virginian says that the small farmer who is generally doing better than the large farmer. That this is true may easily be proven by inquiring into the relative prosperity of the 40-acre farmer and the 100-acre farmer in your own neighborhood. Which is burdened with the less debt, in proportion to the total value of his land? Which is procuring the best profit upon his capital, and the largest money yield per acre, and which gets the most satisfaction out of the business of agriculture? One trouble is that we have acquired more than we can handle to the best advantage.

Color Put Into Butter.

That color may be put into butter we have every reason to know, but to what extent of how, rapidly we have no definite knowledge. There is naturally a very considerable difference in the shades of Jersey butter, just as there is in the shades of gold, each of these shades may be deepened or lightened by judicious feeding for a long time. Among the articles that deepen the color of butter are carrots and corn meal; yellow corn meal tends to make a deeper colored butter than white corn. Of course it must not be forgotten that the temperature at which butter is churned makes considerable difference in its color. Too high a temperature will lower the color. Moreover, each cow's milk has a temperature at which it is churned to best advantage, both as to color, quality and quantity.—Jersey Bulletin.

Bones For Fertilizers.

Several years ago I wrote the World just how to soften bones for a fertilizer. I have done the same every spring for years and have never failed but twice, and that was when I first began. With your permission I will repeat my process and none can fail who follow it.

Build a platform large enough to set one or two barrels or boxes on, with enough slant for the lyne to run into an old pan or kettle. Bore two or three holes in the bottom of the barrel, put in a light layer of ashes, then a layer of bones, then a layer of ashes. Wet the ashes and pack them solid. Then another layer of bones alternately, until your barrel is full. Leave a hollow at the top of the barrel to hold water and fill it full and keep it full. Warm water is best at first. When the lyne runs through, pour it back. If kept wet, in four or six weeks the bones will be as soft as bread, and can be cut as easily with a knife, or if dug out and dried will crumble like flour. I omitted that when the bones begin to soften the flow of lyne will stop, and begin again as soon as they are soft. Be careful in using, and unless diluted two or three times it will burn up your plants.

JAMES O. NICKERSON.

Hemlock Lake, N. Y.

Be Ready.

It is an item with all crops to be sown in good season, and this is especially the case in the spring. It often occurs that failure to be ready at the proper time causes several days' delay in getting the crop in. With a number of spring crops earliness is an important item, and every advantage should be taken to be ready to sow at the first opportunity. Waiting to secure seed or needed implements or to haul out and apply the manure after spring opens often makes a serious difference in the growth and in the crops, and under present conditions every advantage should be taken to secure the best growth and yield at the least cost, and if this is done sowing the seed in good season is one of the essentials.

A little care in making the necessary preparations in advance will help materially in getting the necessary spring work done in good season, and in a majority of cases all that is done in advance will be that much towards insuring having the seeding done at the proper time. It is of no advantage to attempt to work the soil when it is not in a proper condition, but it is quite an item to be ready to crowd the soil as fully as possible whenever the soil and the season will admit, and being ready to do this will economize both time and labor.

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Buy a pair to set around the winter fire, and

save your shoes.

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Dec. 2, 1892. GILREATH & CO.

Bibles and Testaments.

The Mecklenburg county Bible Society will keep at its Depository at No. 18, on East Trade street, under the care and attention of Mr. Frank Dwyer, a well selected stock of Bibles, Testaments, Psalms and Gospels which can be had by those able to buy at actual cost, and to those unable to buy they will be given on presenting an order from any officer of the Society to the Depository.

Sept. 30, 1892.

NOTICE!

Having this day qualified before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg county, as the Administrator of J. D. Knox, I hereby give notice to all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to me before the 1st day of January, 1893, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

W. M. BOYD.

Administrator of J. D. Knox.

Ranalsburg P. O., N. C.

Dec. 23, 1892.

Where Rats and Mice Abound.

A Pennsylvania farmer tells in the Farm, Field and Fireside how to rid one's premises of rodents. He says that a mixture of two parts of bruised common bacon, made into a stiff mass, with as much meal as may be required, and then baked into small cakes and put where rats and mice can get at them, will rid a barn of these pests in a short time.

Sore Throat

Lameness

Sore Eyes

Soreness

Catarrh

Bruises

Burns

Cuts

Piles

Female

Complaints

Rheumatism

AND ALL

Inflammation

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